



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

an

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/051,304	01/22/2002	David W. Vos	13232.00023	5251

7590 02/03/2005

FINNEGAN , HENDERSON , FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER,LLP.
1300 I STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3315

EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, WILLIAM H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3746

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/051,304

Applicant(s)

VOS ET AL.

Examiner

William H. Rodriguez

Art Unit

3746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of group I (claims 1-7 and 13-19) in the reply filed on 11/22/04 is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1 and 13 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The word "a output" should be replaced by --an output-- before "power command" and after "generating". Appropriate correction is required.

Double Patenting

3. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Art Unit: 3746

4. Claims 1-7 and 13-19 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,171,055. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of the following reasons:

Independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application recites an apparatus comprising the following elements: *an input means, an output power command, and a processor for receiving the generated output power command, receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions, receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters, determining first and second power plant control commands and outputting first and second outputting signals*. While, independent claim 1 of the patent recites an apparatus comprising the following elements: *an input means "a manually-operable lever", an output power command "a pilot thrust command", and a processor for receiving the generated output power command, receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions, receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters, determining first and second power plant control commands and outputting first and second outputting signals*. Thus, the elements recited by independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application are contained within independent claim 1 of the patent. Therefore, independent claim 1 of the patent "anticipates" independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application.

The same analysis applies to dependent claims 2-7 and 12-19 of the instant application vs. Claims 2-7 of the patent mentioned above.

Art Unit: 3746

5. Claims 1-7 and 13-19 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,289. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of the following reasons:

Independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application recites an apparatus comprising the following elements: *an input means, an output power command, and a processor for receiving the generated output power command, receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions, receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters, determining first and second power plant control commands and outputting first and second outputting signals*. While, independent claim 1 of the patent recites an apparatus comprising the following elements: *an input means "a lever means", an output power command "a pilot thrust command", and a processor for receiving the generated output power command, receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions, receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters, determining first and second power plant control commands and outputting first and second outputting signals*. Thus, the elements recited by independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application are contained within independent claim 1 of the patent. Therefore, independent claim 1 of the patent "anticipates" independent claims 1 and 13 of the instant application.

The same analysis applies to dependent claims 2-7 and 12-19 of the instant application vs. Claims 2-7 of the patent mentioned above.

Art Unit: 3746

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

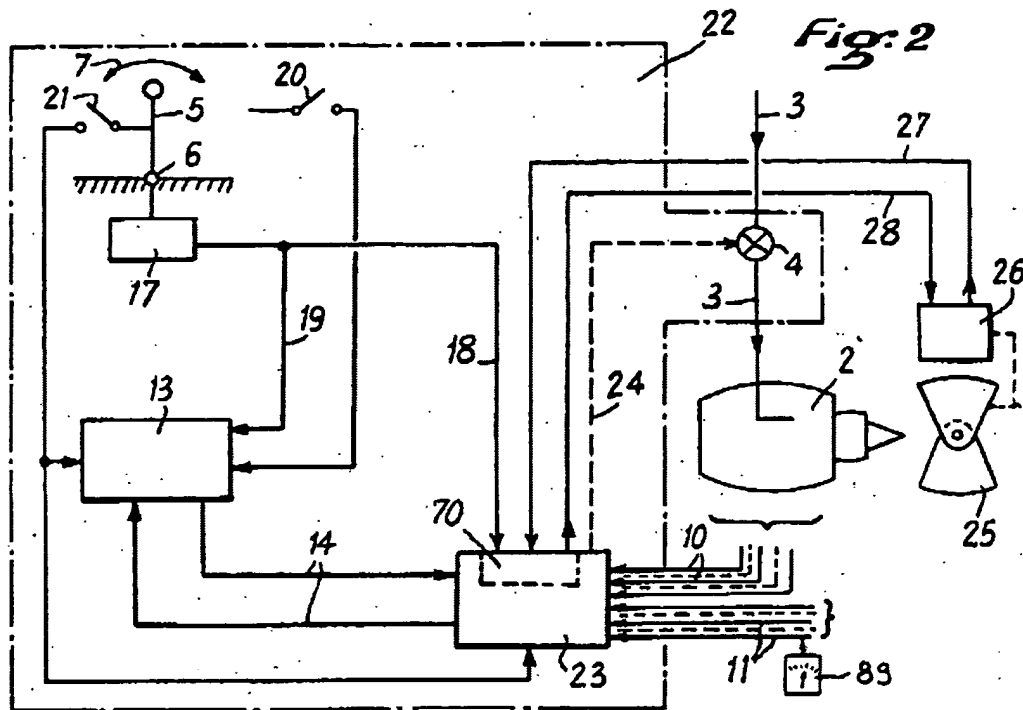
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

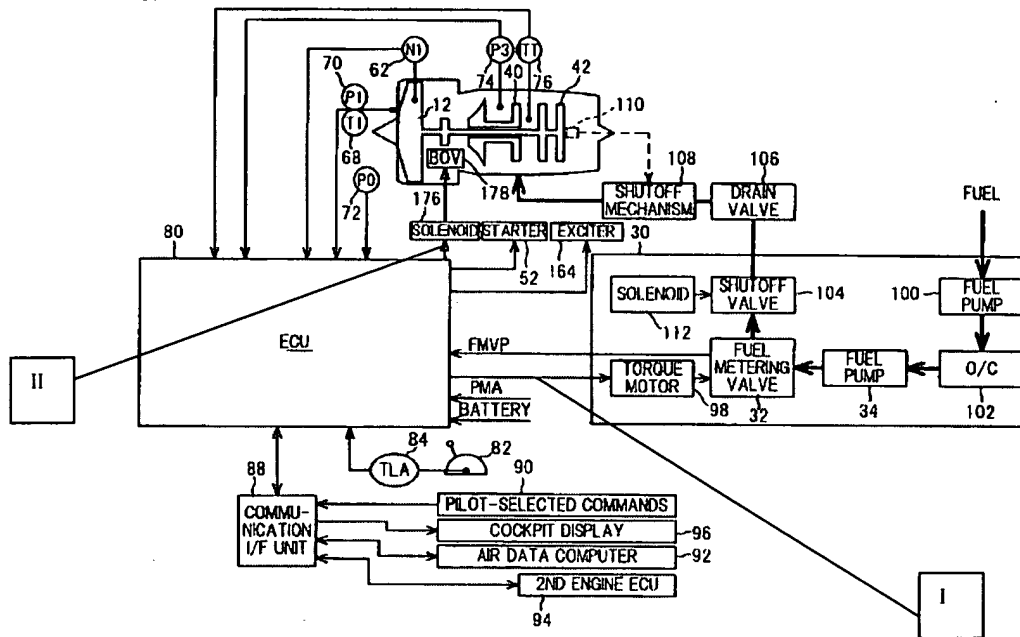
7. Claims 1 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Cavasa et al. (U.S. 4,686,825)**.



Cavasa teaches an apparatus comprising: an input means 5 for generating a output power command; and a processor 23 coupled to said input means 5 for a) receiving the generated output power command, b) receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions 11 (see column 6 lines 8-10), c) receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters 10 (see column 6 lines 4-6), d) determining first and second power plant control commands (control of fuel valve 4; and control of thrust reverser 25) based on the received output power command, the detected ambient air conditions, and the power plant performance parameters, e) and outputting first and second output signals (24, 28) respectively corresponding to the first and second power plant control commands. See particularly **Figure 2** of Cavasa.

8. Claims 1 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Hattori** (U.S. 6,434,473).

FIG. 2



Hattori teaches an apparatus comprising: an input means 82 for generating a output power command; and a processor ECU coupled to said input means 82 for a) receiving the generated output power command, b) receiving a plurality of detected ambient air conditions (68, 70, 72), c) receiving a plurality of detected power plant performance parameters (74, 76), d) determining first and second power plant control commands (control of fuel valves; and control of bleed valve 178) based on the received output power command, the detected ambient air conditions, and the power plant performance parameters, e) and outputting first and second output signals (I, II) respectively corresponding to the first and second power plant control commands. See particularly **Figure 2** of Hattori.


Art Unit: 3746

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William H. Rodriguez whose telephone number is 571-272-4831. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J Tyler can be reached on 571-272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


William H. Rodriguez
Examiner
Art Unit 3746